The information is being collected and to the extent available and permissible under the rules will be laid on the Table of the House.

Remuneration of Marathi films and Marathi Film songs

2729. SHRI PRAOMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to increase the remuneration of Marathi films and Marathi film songs telecast from Bombay Doordarshan has virtually become Maharashtra Doordarshan;

(b) if so what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor when the number of viewers has increased by millions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c) The rates for all regional films including those in Marathi telecast from regional stations were revised in July, 1986 with effect from October 1, 1985. At that time due consideration was given to the additional transmitters to be linked with main regional stations for relaying feature films. There is therefore no proposal at present to increase the royalty rates for telecast of Marathi feature films. There is also at present no proposal to increase the rates for telecast of Marathi film songs from DDK, Bombay.

Income tax on GPF withdrawals

2730. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that withdrawals from the General Provident Fund by the Central Government employees are taxable under the category of income;

(b) if so the details in this regard; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Closure of Rajasthan atomic power station

2731. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 367 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th November, 1986 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken to solve the problems affecting Unit-I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station and what has been the expenditure incurred hitherto;

(b) whether Government have taken a final decision regarding closure of otherwise of this unit; and

(c) what would be the cost of such decommissioning of this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) and (b) A group of experts from the Department of Atomic Energy has examined alternative approaches for rehabilitation of Unit-I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station. In the short term, sealing the new cracks in the south end shield employing a method similar to the one used earlier appears feasible and may permit operating the unit at a reduced power level. However, there is some uncertainty regarding reliable long term operation with this method. Replacement of both the end shields may be a long term solution for rehabilitation of the unit. The cost benefit aspects of this alternative are being examined. The amount spent

towards repairs of Unit I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station during the last three years is about Rs. 100 lakhs.

(c) Does not arise.

Role of CSIR in upgradation of national technology

2732. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main objectives and functions of the CSIR;

(b) what are the major areas where the CSIR can be made to contribute to the nation's research and development effort both in the public and the private sectors; and

(c) what is the extent to which it has succeeded in its role in upgrading the national technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL). (a) The main objectives and functions of the CSIR are:

(i) Promotion guidance and coordination of Scientific and Industrial Research.

(ii) Collection and dissemination of information on research and industry.

(iii) Furthering Scientific and Industrial Research and exploitation of research results for development of industry.

(iv) Rendering assistance to other institutions conducting research, awarding fellowships and publishing scientific journals.

(b) Examples of major areas where CSIR can contribute to the nation's research and development effort are in petrochemicals, polymers catalysts drugs, bio-technology agro-technologies for aromatic and medicinal plants, electronic process control, mining and metallurgy, composites, aeronautics Oceanography industrial toxicology, standards & meteorology.

(c) It has had significant impact in upgrading technology in areas such as agrotechnologies for aromatic and medicinal plants decentralised post harvest techniques and technologies, leather, appropriate building designs and building materials, mining gadgets petrochemicals, pesticides and drugs.

Study into leaving of science by the students

2733. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given serious thought to the long-range effects of brilliant science students, who are forced to leave the realm of pure science and join professional services;

(b) what is Government's estimate of such a brain drain;

(c) whether Government contemplate to initiate a catalogue with the scientific community to remedy this situation; and

(d) what have been the results of such an effort so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Some of the science and Engineering students are taking jobs in Management, Banking, Administration etc. However, this number is not significant as compared to the total outturn of students in Science & Technology disciplines from the academic institutions of the country.

(c) No Sir, there is no such proposal under consideration at present. However, a number of steps have been taken to elevate the status of scentists and technologists and to improve their working conditions with a view to at-